

ECFS - Email Filing

<PROCEEDING>96-45

<DATE>02/08/2005

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<DESCRIPTION>

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<TEXT>As a full time mom and student with a 30 hour a week job I can not afford to take more money go out to anything, I'm lucky that I can afford to pay for 40 minutes(which cost \$20.99) every week to two weeks. I do not want to pay more for my telephone service! I'm just getting by now. My concern is that I need to make sure that I am available to my children. I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. It just seems like everywhere I turn I'm being taxed, This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for my own safety, security and convenience, so that my children can call me for any emergency. I also went and bought my son the same so we keep contact. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I need to be able to have my children to be able to reach me at all times. Please think about the parents that do not want to get a contract deal with other companies, we need a break too. Our kids need to have security, knowing that they can reach a parent or guardian without having to stress over where should they should call or what is the number that they need to call now. My children have memorized my tracephone number, I really do not want them to learn two to three numbers and have to call around to find me.

To me, my tracphone is my line to my children and for anyone to say that the taxes that I pay when I buy more airtime is not enough, well, their taking away the stability that my family has to stay in touch with their mom.

So, PLEASE I urge you to take a good look at the faces and the families that rely on tracphone for the safety. So, would you please see how important this service is to most families that need to watch what they spend, reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely, Kathy Talpey 120 Apple rd.  
Lewiston, Me. 04240

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Kathy Talpey  
120 Apple rd.  
Lewiston, Maine 04240